

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of receiving information concerning a remotely monitored device, the information being contained in a message that also includes a message type designation, the method comprising:

parsing a first line from the message to extract the message type designation, wherein the first line is the first line in the message;

determining a data structure type based on the message type designation;

creating a data structure of the determined data structure type in a memory, wherein fields in the created data structure are different depending on the message type designation;

parsing a second line from the message to extract a data type and a data value; and

storing the extracted data value in the data structure of the determined data structure type at a location in the memory corresponding to the extracted data type.

2. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein:

the information is included in an attachment to an email sent from the remotely monitored device; and

each parsing step includes invoking a function within an object-oriented parser class that obtains string data from an object-oriented email processor class that has extracted the string data from the email attachment.

3. (Currently Amended) A system for receiving information concerning a remotely monitored device, the information being contained in a message that also includes a message type designation, the system comprising:

means for parsing a first line from the message to extract the message type designation, wherein the first line is the first line in the message;

means for determining a data structure type based on the message type designation;

means for creating a data structure of the determined data structure type in a memory,

wherein fields in the created data structure are different depending on the message type designation;

means for parsing a second line from the message to extract a data type and a data value; and

means for storing the extracted data value in the data structure of the determined data structure type at a location in the memory corresponding to the extracted data type.

4. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 3, wherein:

the information is included in an attachment to an email sent from the remotely monitored device; and

each of the parsing means includes means for invoking a function within an object-oriented parser class that obtains string data from an object-oriented email processor class that has extracted the string data from the email attachment.

5. (Currently Amended) In a system for remotely monitoring a device, the system including:

A) a receiver manager class, and

B) a data retriever, the data retriever including:

- i) a data retriever class,
- ii) an email processor, and
- iii) a parser;

a method of receiving information concerning the remotely monitored device, the information being contained in a message that also includes a message type designation, the method comprising:

a) the data retriever class invoking a function in the email processor to read a first line and to read a second line from the message;

b) the data retriever class invoking a function in the parser to parse the first line of the message to extract the message type designation, wherein the first line is the first line in the message;

c) the data retriever class returning the extracted message type designation to the receiver manager class;

d) the receiver manager class determining a data structure type based on the extracted message type designation and passing the data structure type to the data retriever class; and

e) the data retriever class invoking a function in the parser to extract a data type and a data value from the second line and to store the extracted data value in a data structure of the determined data structure type at a location in a memory corresponding to the extracted data type, wherein fields in the data structure are different depending on the message type designation.

6. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 5, wherein:

the message is included in an email message received by a Post Office Protocol 3 (POP3) server; and

the email processor includes functions to interface to the POP3 server.

7. (Original) The system of Claim 6, wherein:

the message is included in an attachment to the email.

8. (Previously Presented) The system of Claim 7, wherein:

the attachment is a Multipurpose Internet Mail Extensions (MIME) attachment.

9. (Currently Amended) A software module for receiving information concerning the remotely monitored device, the information being contained in a message that also includes a message type designation, the software module comprising:

A) a receiver manager class, and

B) a data retriever, the data retriever including:

i) a data retriever class,

ii) an email processor, and

iii) a parser;

wherein:

a) the data retriever class is configured to invoke a function in the email processor to read a first line and to read a second line from the message, wherein the first line is the first line in the message;

b) the data retriever class is configured to invoke a function in the parser to parse the first line of the message to extract the message type designation;

c) the data retriever class is configured to return the extracted message type designation type to receiver manager class;

d) the receiver manager class is configured to determine a data structure type based on the extracted message type designation and to pass the data structure type to the data retriever class; and

e) the data retriever class is configured to invoke a function in the parser to extract a data type and a data value from the second line and to store the extracted data value in a data

structure of the determined data structure type at a location in a memory corresponding to the extracted data type, wherein fields in the data structure are different depending on the message type designation.

10. (Original) The software module of Claim 9, wherein:

the message is included in an email message received by a POP3 server; and

the email processor class includes functions to interface to the POP3 server.

11. (Original) The software module of Claim 10, wherein:

the message is included in an attachment to the email.

12. (Original) The software module of Claim 11, wherein:

the attachment is a MIME attachment.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the step of parsing the first line comprises:

parsing the first line from the message to extract the message type designation, the message type designation representing one of configuration information, device information, and status information of the remotely monitored device.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 1, wherein the message is transmitted over the Internet using an Internet email protocol.

15. (New) The method of Claim 1, further comprising:

repeating the second parsing step and the storing step for another line of the message.